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## THE SENATE'S DUTY

It is hard to know what to believe about Cuba any more, except that the administration's managed version of the Cuba story, if the few scraps of information which it has given us can be called a story, has fallen apart like the one-horse shay.

There have been evasions by everyone from the President on down. When one or another of the inner Kennedy clique does offer something purporting to be a fact, or to "clarify" the matter, some body else is likely to come forward promptly with evidence to contradict it. Newspaper men, Cuban revolutionary leaders, a few generals, and even Gov. Faubus of Arkansas have made their contributions to the piecemeal story, compounding the confusion and making the White House version more unpalatable than ever.

If all objectionable Russian weapons have been removed from Cuba, as Mr. Kennedy has often led us to believe, then what are we to call the "military equipment" which Gen. Fitch, the head of army intelligence, now tells us is being hidden in Cuban caves by Russian troops?

The President made it clear from the beginning, his brother tells us, that American manpower would not be used. He has said himself that he made it clear that "the armed forces of this country would not interfere in any way." And Robert Kennedy was quoted in a newspaper interview Jan. 11 as saying flatly that no Americans were killed in the invasion.

What are we to make now of the disclosure that four Americans were killed and that one of them was—at least until the moment he was mysteriously recruited to take part in the invasion—a major in the Alaska National Guard? What about Gov. Faubus' report that 12 Arkansas National Guardsmen were similarly recruited and that a national guard plane which the federal government had "retracted from service" turned up as part of the invasion forces?

And then the invasion was in the hands of the CIA. We have repeated over and over that it was the CIA that did it happen that

the CIA herded the leaders of the Cuban Revolutionary Council into a house near Miami and kept them there, incommunicado, while the invasion was in progress? And to whom was President Kennedy issuing his orders? Foreigners?

Why has there been no satisfactory report from the attorney general on the investigation of the CIA's part in the invasion, which the President asked him to conduct nearly two years ago?

Finally, how can this evasion and confusion be reconciled with what President Kennedy told the American Society of Newspaper Editors on April 20, 1961, immediately after the ill-fated invasion? He said that he as "President of a great democracy," and the editors of the nation's press owed "a common obligation to the people—an obligation to present the facts, to present them with candor, and to present them in perspective."

Mr. Kennedy has plainly failed to carry out his part of this obligation. The administration has tried to manage the news, and the effort has failed miserably. We've had enough double talk from the White House. It is high time the CIA told its story, which would answer a lot of questions and which can hardly be withheld any longer on the grounds of security.

Sen. Dirksen has called for a thorough Senate investigation of the whole matter. The Senate owes it to the American people to find out precisely what has been going on and to give them a story which is coherent and which they can believe. Specifically, the Senate should determine now who is to blame for our repeated blunders and miscalculations in Cuba and should establish why there has been such a persistent effort to conceal the truth from the public.

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